



# NARICnews

NATIONAL RECOGNITION CENTRE FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM

Issue 72

January 2018

Welcome to the January 2018 edition of NARIC News



## UK NARIC services for members: new developments for 2018

The new year 2018 sees a number of new developments now live or coming up in our services for members – in grades information, verification of qualifications, and broader, richer data on the suitability and preparedness of applicants.

The latest upgrades and extensions to our International Grade Comparisons (IGC) data bank are now live. IGC now covers 110 countries and 405 qualifications. Also new for 2018 is the ability to see and compare grades data from previous years. This allows for shifts or trends in grade distributions in a country over time to be seen.

IGC in 2018 also features a more granular analysis of overseas grades so that these can be more directly compared to A level grade combinations and entry thresholds.

The European Grade Distributions (EGD) database, which covers Europe only, is now presented in PDF format and is available via the Publications tab on the members' Hub. The Grades tab on the Hub accesses the extended IGC. If you do not currently have access to IGC and would like more information or a trial, contact [members@naric.org.uk](mailto:members@naric.org.uk).

There is an increasing focus on fraud and the authentication of documents. This was discussed at our November conference and is also the subject of UK and global media attention, with UK NARIC recently briefing journalists about degree fraud for programmes on the BBC and Channel News Asia. ([more...](#))

**Late news:** the summary results of UK NARIC's review of **Syrian Interim Government Qualifications** have just been approved for release by DFID, the Department for International Development. More details in February's NARIC News. If you wish early sight of these review findings, email [communications@naric.org.uk](mailto:communications@naric.org.uk).



## New UK NARIC benchmark: International Arab Baccalaureate

### Special admissions and compliance training offer

We are offering a special £50 discount when you book places on both of our day-long training courses in London on 6 and 7 March. These two courses complement each other, offering an introduction on how immigration compliance fits into an admissions officer role, and an in-depth examination of the topic with legal experts.

The [Admissions Officer Level 1 training day](#) on 6 March is an excellent introduction to the background as well as the responsibilities of this role. The 7 March [Tier 4 compliance training](#) gives delegates much more in-depth information and advice ([more...](#))

### Training in Leeds, London, Sheffield, Cheltenham

There's still time to book your place on a new half-day workshop we are running at our Cheltenham HQ on 7 February on [Education in Iran and Azerbaijan](#). We will be looking at documentation from these interesting developing markets for UK education and examining their education systems. Our offices in Cheltenham are [easily accessible by road and rail](#), with parking available, and just a short walk from the railway station.

We are offering more half-day workshops in [London](#) on 13 and 14 March, covering key topics for education and recruitment: [Evaluating International Qualifications](#), [Combating Education Fraud](#), [Understanding and Evaluating Professional Qualifications](#), and [Education in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh](#). ([more...](#))

Candidates who have been educated in Lebanon or Saudi Arabia may offer admissions teams and employers the International Arab Baccalaureate (IAB). This qualification has now been benchmarked by UK NARIC and, from the first cohort of graduates for the updated qualification in 2017, it is considered comparable to the overall UK GCE A level standard.

This international diploma, which has been developed by the Educational Research Center (ERC) in Lebanon, runs alongside national upper secondary level qualifications (*Lebanon, pictured above*). The three-year IAB Diploma focuses on 4 science subjects (biology, chemistry, physics and maths) plus 2 languages (Arabic and either English or French). With the exception of English language, each STEM subject passed at over 60% is comparable to GCE AS level. This is because of the smaller volume of learning compared to a GCE A level in a single subject. ([more...](#))

## UK NARIC quarterly statistics series: 2017 review and summary

UK NARIC presents the eleventh edition of our quarterly statistics series, covering October to December 2017, and our annual summary and review of 2017.

This shows movements in numbers of completed UK NARIC individual enquiries, by country. The data are shown in the tables after the link. ([more...](#))



**To find the right students, you can search the world... Or you can use TOEFL Search Service!**

### What is the TOEFL Search Service?

The TOEFL® Search Service is a web-based database that helps you find the right international students for your undergraduate, graduate and English-language programs. It provides current, targeted mailing lists of prospective students to support your recruitment efforts.

### How can it help me?

The TOEFL Search Service gives you access to a database of over one million students from over 180 countries. So it allows you to not only focus on countries you need but also gives you the flexibility to broaden your search to include countries that you may not have looked at before. And you can easily search using multiple criteria ([more...](#))



**UK NARIC certificate bank updates live – 1000 images added, covers 50% more countries & territories**

To give members more information to help them visually check documents offered to support an application, UK NARIC's Research and Data Group has been working hard to add to our bank of certificates and transcripts from around the world.

In the last year, 1068 high resolution images were added to the bank, increasing the number of countries/territories covered from 103 to 156. This means there are now a total of 4568 images covering 75% of the 206 countries in the UK NARIC International Comparisons database.

This upgrade makes the certificate bank an even more useful tool for fraud prevention and maintaining compliance with Tier 4 student visa requirements ([more...](#))



**Free CPD-accredited IELTS seminars for stakeholders across Britain: now open for 2018 bookings**

Every year the IELTS Stakeholder engagement team runs free seminars across the UK and Ireland. This year kicked off in Birmingham on 10 January and the remaining 10 events are now open for booking. Don't miss your chance to come to one of these very popular interactive seminars. You can now book your place online well in advance of the events, which are now listed for the whole of 2018.

These free, interactive seminars are aimed at staff working in all IELTS stakeholder groups. If you work at a university or college, in immigration, or for a professional registration body or an employer who uses IELTS, these seminars are for you.

Whether you have worked with IELTS for some time ([more...](#))

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